



NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH

Bristol County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

North Attleborough is an industrial town in Bristol County on the Rhode Island border. In pre-Colonial times, it was the site of the Bay Path, a major Indian trail to Narragansett Bay, the Seekonk River and Boston. John Woocock and family established a small settlement in North Attleborough in 1669, which subsisted on agriculture, fishing and hunting but also clearly liked a little conviviality because by 1670, Woocock had received a license to open an ordinary, or tavern. The settlement was attacked during the King Philip war, with two killed and one home burned, but the garrison house which Woocock had built survived the attack. Recovery was swift after the war and the community grew very quickly; by 1776 there were 2200 people living there.

In about 1780 a French settler set up a forge for working brass and the industrial era arrived in North Attleborough. Englishmen brought with them British machinery from Birmingham in 1794 and designed American improvements in button making which they patented. During the 18th and early 19th centuries, small grist and sawmills were built along the Tenmile River, and subsequently established nail factories were eventually eclipsed by cotton spinning mills. The development of cotton spinning was spurred by the embargo on imports resulting from the War of 1812. Textiles and jewelry manufacturing were the staple industries of the town by 1832 but buttons were king. By 1834 it was said that North Attleborough produced more buttons than anywhere in the United States.

Through the 19th century there was tremendous growth and innovation in the jewelry industry and the number of firms in the town increased sharply. By 1855 there were 24 shops making almost \$1 million in jewelry in both Attleboroughs. The Civil War spurred their growth with profitable U.S. Army orders for badges and medals.

North Attleborough retains an outstanding collection of mid- to late-19th century houses including several Italianate villas.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Plainville on the north; Mansfield on the east; Attleboro on the south; and Cumberland, Rhode Island, on the west. North Attleborough is 32 miles southwest of Boston; 12 miles north of Providence, Rhode Island; and 186 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 19.06 sq. miles

Land Area: 18.65 sq. miles

Population: 25,038

Density: 1,343 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Taunton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.7"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Attleborough, Pawtucket, Wrentham

Regional Planning Agency

Southeastern Regional Planning and
Economic Development District

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Fall River



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 699-0100

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Representative Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1887

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	12,898		
Democrats	2,654	20.6	%
Republicans	2,511	19.5	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	7,733	60.0	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: North Attleborough town, Bristol County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	27,143	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	27,143	100.0
Male.....	13,192	48.6	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	358	1.3
Female.....	13,951	51.4	Mexican.....	51	0.2
Under 5 years.....	1,957	7.2	Puerto Rican.....	109	0.4
5 to 9 years.....	2,085	7.7	Cuban.....	19	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	2,075	7.6	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	179	0.7
15 to 19 years.....	1,714	6.3	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	26,785	98.7
20 to 24 years.....	1,251	4.6	White alone.....	25,839	95.2
25 to 34 years.....	4,168	15.4	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	5,157	19.0	Total population.....	27,143	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	3,966	14.6	In households.....	26,990	99.4
55 to 59 years.....	1,263	4.7	Householder.....	10,391	38.3
60 to 64 years.....	885	3.3	Spouse.....	5,918	21.8
65 to 74 years.....	1,371	5.1	Child.....	8,781	32.4
75 to 84 years.....	934	3.4	Own child under 18 years.....	6,915	25.5
85 years and over.....	317	1.2	Other relatives.....	850	3.1
Median age (years).....	35.6	(X)	Under 18 years.....	286	1.1
18 years and over.....	19,852	73.1	Nonrelatives.....	1,050	3.9
Male.....	9,474	34.9	Unmarried partner.....	581	2.1
Female.....	10,378	38.2	In group quarters.....	153	0.6
21 years and over.....	19,076	70.3	Institutionalized population.....	129	0.5
62 years and over.....	3,128	11.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	24	0.1
65 years and over.....	2,622	9.7	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,067	3.9	Total households.....	10,391	100.0
Female.....	1,555	5.7	Family households (families).....	7,227	69.6
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,741	36.0
One race.....	26,922	99.2	Married-couple family.....	5,918	57.0
White.....	26,048	96.0	With own children under 18 years.....	3,002	28.9
Black or African American.....	251	0.9	Female householder, no husband present.....	976	9.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	33	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	578	5.6
Asian.....	463	1.7	Nonfamily households.....	3,164	30.4
Asian Indian.....	171	0.6	Householder living alone.....	2,568	24.7
Chinese.....	112	0.4	Householder 65 years and over.....	762	7.3
Filipino.....	24	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,941	37.9
Japanese.....	12	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,871	18.0
Korean.....	28	0.1	Average household size.....	2.60	(X)
Vietnamese.....	55	0.2	Average family size.....	3.15	(X)
Other Asian ¹	61	0.2	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	5	-	Total housing units.....	10,635	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	10,391	97.7
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	244	2.3
Samoan.....	3	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	1	-	occasional use.....	35	0.3
Some other race.....	122	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	221	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.9	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	10,391	100.0
White.....	26,297	96.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	7,113	68.5
Black or African American.....	305	1.1	Renter-occupied housing units.....	3,278	31.5
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	96	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.87	(X)
Asian.....	539	2.0	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.00	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	13	-			
Some other race.....	188	0.7			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	276
Conventional Federal:	92

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	1
Federal (Section 8):	104



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The Taunton-Attleboro region has excellent highway facilities. Interstate 495, especially well designed south of Boston, provides access to Interstate 90 to the northwest and to U.S. Route 6, the Mid-Cape Highway, to the southeast. Interstate 95 and the Fall River Expressway (State Route 24) provide access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are U.S. Route 1 and Interstate Route 95, which run NE-SW between metropolitan Boston and Providence, and Interstate Route 295 looping around Providence, Rhode Island. Interstate Route 95 forms an interchange with Interstate Route 495 on the border of the neighboring towns of Mansfield and Foxborough.

Rail

Commuter rail service to Back Bay Station and South Station, Boston is available in neighboring Attleboro (travel time 35-48 min. to BBS) and South Attleboro (45-56 min). Both stations offer parking facilities, with 781 and 562 spaces, respectively.

Bus

North Attleborough is a member of the Greater Attleboro-Taunton Regional Authority (GATRA), which provides Dial-A-Ride service to the elderly and disabled.

Other

The Mansfield Municipal Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located 2 mi. SE of the city, has a 3,496'x 75' asphalt runway and a 2,200'x 100' turf runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

Madonna Manor Nursing Home

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.